(MECL) had carried out exploration and estimation of reserves for primary gold in Maruda and Nilambur area and for placer gold in the river channels of Chaliyar and Punnapuzha in Nilambur Valley.

2. Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) has established gold ore reserves in Maruda Central block, Malappuram district. KMEDP has estimated resources of auriferous gravel in Nilambur Valley, Kerala.

Drinking Water in Rural Areas

984. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been set to provide drinking water in rural areas where no source is available;

(b) if so, details of the scheme proposed to be launched to provide drinking water in rural areas;

(c) the number of villages likely to be benefited by this scheme; and

(d) the measures being taken to resolve the problem of drinking water in rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Safe drinking water is being provided to 'Not Covered' habitations under the normal plan programme of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission and State Sector Minimum Needs Programme.

(c) 52442 'not covered' inhabitations are likely to be provided with safe drinking water during 1995-96

(d) All the remaining 'Not Covered' habitations are proposed be covered by August, 1997.

Transport subsidy on Seeds

905.SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the areas where transport subsidy on seeds is being given for speedy supply of seeds;

(b) the amount of this subsidy given for the last three years and on what amount of seed; and

(c) the steps being taken to see that proper supply of seeds are maintained in the North Eastern region of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN) (a) A Central Sector Scheme on Transport Subsidy is being implemented in North Eastern States including Sikkim.

In addition, transport subsidy is also available to not easily accessible/remotely situated areas of all States under a New Central Sector Scheme called "Integrated Seed Development, which is being implemented during the current financial year, 1995-96.

(b) An amount of Rs. 32.02 lakhs, Rs. 22.95 lakhs and Rs. 31.52 lakhs was given during 1992-93 to 1994-95 for the seed quantities of 69,115 quintals, 57,945 quintals and 33,731 quintals respectively.

(c) In addition to the above mentioned schemes, seed requirement and availability are regularly assessed State-wise during Zonal Seed Review Meetings organised prior to commencement of each season i.e. kharif and rabi. National Seed Corporation (NSC), State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) and State Seed Corporations (SSCs) etc. have producing and distributing seeds in addition to the supplementary efforts being made by the State Government in this regard.

गुजरात में गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में इस्पात संयंत्रों की स्थापना

906. श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल: क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार गुजरात सरकार की ओर से गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में इस्पात संयंत्रों की स्थापना हेतु आशय-पत्र जारी करने के संबंध में कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और